NEWES From Francfort,

Concerning the election of the *most mighty Emperor* Matthias, *the first of that name*, Who was elected and crowned in Francfort, *in Iune last*, *Anno* 1612.

Emperor of Germany

Translated out of Dutch into English.

LONDON
Printed for *Henry Holland*, and are to be sold at his shop in Iuy lane, at the signe of the Holy-bush.
1612.

BRITISH MUSEUM

Newes from Francford concerning the Election of *the most mighty Emperour*, Matthias.

RVDOLPHVS the second, Sonne of *Maximilian*, and of *Mary* Daughter of *Charles* the fifth, borne in Vienna the 18. of Iuly the yeare of our Lord 1552. was elected Emperour the yeare 1576. at Ratisbone, and continued in his gouernement vntill this last yeare 1611.

Rudolphus was a Prince that tooke more delight in rare work-manship and artificiall deuices at home, then in warlike affaires abroad, contrary to his poesie A.D.S.I.T which is, *Adjuvante, Domino, Superabo, Imperatorem, Turca-*

rum, in Engliſh; by Gods helpe I will ouercome the Emperor of the Turkes.

His brother *Matthias* Arch-Duke of Auſtria, &c. the third Sonne of *Maximilian*, ſucceeded by Election in his ſteed the 23. of Iune 1612.

Matthias is a Prince of great experience and courage: for, ſince the yeare 1577. hee hath beene trained vp in the managing of great matters: He was brought in ſecretly, and afterwards publikely receiued to the Gouernment of the Low Countries, with certaine conditions whereunto hee agreed the 20. of Ianuary 1577. (the Prince of Orange remaining his Lieutenant Generall:) but ſeeing the confuſion which roſe dayly, hee tooke his leaue of them the 21. of October 1581. Hauing learned there, as in a Schoole, many things whereof ſince hee hath made very good vſe.

He did ſee of late, in the yeare 1608. what confuſiō did begin to riſe in the Empire, by the perſecutions which were practiſed in diuers places for the reformed religions ſake, & how that by the Councell of Ieſuites, Ieſuited Gouernours

were

were brought in; wherby the antient Priuileges and liberties of conſcience were troden vnder foote, and by their mutuall ſtrife the Turke encouraged; and how the Arch-Duke *Ferdinand* of Stiria was brought in to be preferred before him at the Diet of Regensbourgh. Hence vpon due conſiderations and conſultations, ſhewing himſelfe leſſe partiall in Religion, and faithfuller in mind, The Nobles and confederats of Hungary, Auſtria, Morauia, Sileſia, &c. did chooſe *Matthias* for their head, brought together a competent Armie, and eſtabliſhed liberty of Religion, and the vſe of the ancient Priuileges in all thoſe Countries: This Army beeing arrayed, *Matthias* marched with it towards Prague in Bohemia, for to conferre with the Emperour his brother, who by the Ieſuiticall practiſes kept himſelfe cloſe, ſcarſe knowing how matters went, yet this Armie brought vnto them no ſmal terrour, and maters were therby ſo reſolued vpon, that *Matthias*, beeing the elder brother, ſhould ſucceed in all the Dominions of the Emperour, granting vnto him the

Crowne

Crowne of Hungary, and the command of Auſtria, Morauia and other dominions, yet in his life time: vnto the which hee had procured the peace with the Turke and the liberty of conſcience, giuing a free paſſage vnto the goſpell.

The States of Bohemia did like ſo well of *Matthias* proceedings, that, they oppoſing themſelues againſt the wicked and ſiniſter practiſes of *Leopold*, did likwiſe receiue him for their king granting vnto the Emperour his pallace, and a large reuenue to end his dayes in peaceably, deſiring not to be any longer abuſed by thoſe that crept in to the ouerthrow of their Eſtate. *Matthias* by theſe aduancements was the next in hope and apparance to the Imperiall Crowne. Therefore the Emperour *Rudolphus* the ſecond his brother beeing dead, Hee as firſt Elector, King of Bohemia, accompanied with the Queene his wife, met with the other Electors, both ſpirituall and temporall at Francfort on the Mayne, which is an ancient Imperiall Citty, where the Election is accuſtomed to be made, and by the way, He was royal-

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ly entertained by all thoſe Princes and Citties which lay in his paſſage, the Biſhop of *Wirtzbourg* did receiue him in a great Hall, garniſhed with red veluet, amounting to the value of 30000. Florins.

The King *Matthias* beeing arriued at *Francfort* the three and twentith of May, & the other Electors alſo in great ſtate, with very faire horſes and Equipage. The Magiſtrate of Francfort caused a proclamation to bee made the 25. of May, and read at euery ſtreet corner, whereby all the Cittizens were cited to appeare the next day at a publick and large market called the *Romer*, where King *Matthias* and the other Princes came, and in their preſence did giue their oaths, lifting vp their fingers; firſt, the Magiſtrate, and afterward the Cittizens, to defend the Princes from all inuaſions and tumults, according to their power; this beeing done, they went to their ſeuerall lodgings.

Bourgomaiſter.

Or Burſe.

The ix. of Iune was the day appointed for the Election of a new Emperor, but the Electors could not well agree amongſt themſelues for

the time, and matters were deferred vntill the Wednesday following; the occasion of their disagreement, was because the three spirituall Electors, Mentz, Trier, and Colen, with the Duke of Saxone, whose minde was peruerted by some siniſter meanes, did iudge the Archduke *Albert*, yonger brother of *Matthias*, fitter for the Empire then King *Matthias*, who is subiect to the gout, they said, and not like to liue long: This proiect seemed very strange and vnlookt for vnto the Duke of Zwebrough, administrator of the Palatinat, and vnto Lord Putlitz deputie of the Duke of Brandenbourgh, holding with the common opinion of the most part of all the Princes of Christendome, that *Matthias* was farre the fitter man, in regarde of his vnderstanding, experience, courage and state, and that doubtlesse, some secret corruption did bend their hearts and voyce towards *Albertus*.

Dux Biponinus.

This delay being made, the Protestant Princes, in their meeting at Offenbach, a Towne neere vnto Francfort, hauing there also the Ambassa-

Ambaſſadour of France Monſieur *Ancell*, for to conferre with alſo, did diſcouer the miſchiefs which were hidden vnder the deſired election of *Albert*, beeing meere practiſes of the Ieſuites and their adherents: but all was ouerthrowne: Firſt, by the reſolution of the Proteſtant Princes, who were ready to ſet the Imperiall crowne on *Matthias* his head, euen with their ſwords.

Secondly, by a letter ſent from the French King and Queene his Mother, whereby *Matthias* was recommended vnto the Electors, as the fitter man for the place.

This letter beeing read, and the reſolution of the Prince of Anhalt, Lantgraue of Haſſen, Duke of Wirtenbourgh, Marqueſſe of Baden, beeing knowne, the pluralitie of voyces in the next meeting, fell on *Matthias*.

The twelfth of Iune, the Bourgomaiſter of Francfort cauſed to bee denounced with the Drumme the day of the Election, and commanded all ſtrangers, (the Electors onely excepted) to voide the Citie.

The xiii. day, about seuen a clock in the morning, the Electors with King *Matthias* went to the Councel chamber, staid together one houre, did put on their princely garments, and rode from thence to the Church of Saint *Bartholmew*: First the Archbishop of Mentz and Trier rode together: then followed the Archbishop of Colen, on the right hand, and *Matthias* on the left; after him came the Duke of Saxone, with a bare sword in his hand, The Administrator of the Palatinat caried the Spheare of the World, and the Lord Putlitz in the name of the Duke of Brandenb. bore the Scepter: they beeing entred into the Church, euery one tooke his due place, which was noted with golden letters: the places for *Mentz*, *Palatine*, and King *Matthias*, were on the right hand, for Colen, Saxone, and Brandenbourgh, on the left, Trier was in the midst. Then began the Priests to say the Masse *de Sancto Spiritu*: The temporall Electors during the Celebration of the Idololatricall Masse, retired vnto a Conclaue, or chamber, and it beeing ended, did returne vnto their

Dux Biponinus.

roomes

roomes or places, and thence went, as their order required, to the Altar, and tooke their accuſtomed oath, the ſpirituall Electors ſwearing, held their hands on their breſts, and the temporall on the Goſpell. Thence they all went into a chamber, where the Votes were collected, which fell on *Mathias, vnanimiter*. This beeing performed, the new choſen King of the Romanes, was brought againe before the Altar, and all the Electors round about him, then was ſung *Te Deum laudamus*, all the Bels were rong, and the Ordenance diſcharged, in ſigne of ioy; from the Altar hee was led to a Royall Chaire, and then was proclaimed *King of the Romaines, and Emperor apparant, &c.* and ſo being accompanied to his Court, the gates of the Citty were opened, and xvi. of the chiefe Princes of Germanie came to congratulate vnto him this dignitie.

The Sunday following was the day of his Coronation, the Crowne was fetcht from Aké, Aquiſgra where it is kept in cuſtody, and diuers reliques were ſent along with the ſame, as, *the bloud of*

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Aquiſgra

Saint *Stephan*, &c. leauing yet behind *the breeches of Ioseph*, and *the smock of our Lady*, which are held there in no small deuotion.

In the Market place of *Francfort* was roasted a whole Oxe, whereof a peece beeing cut off for the Emperour, the rest was giuen to the multitude, which did so throng, that two men were smothered to death, and six more sorely hurt. There was also erected an Eagle of a huge bigness, out of which did run both red and white wine in aboundance. Finally, gold and siluer coynes were dispersed amongst the people, in great measure, and there followed very great feasting, banqueting, melodious Musick, &c. These solemnities beeing thus performed, as also the Coronation of the Empresse his wife: they returned towards Prague; beeing chiefly entertained and receiued with great honor and triumph in Norembergh.

An Eagle being the Armes of the Empire.

Wee cannot vnderstand that the Popes Nuncio hath had any thing to doe with this election, which doubtlesse his Holinesse will not so well like of: But our hope is, that according

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ding to the admonition of *Laurentius Valla*, Ann. 1420. (ſpeaking againſt that forged and ſuppoſed donation of *Conſtantine*, whereon the Popes pride and vſurpation is grounded,) The Emperor will one day remember his ancient and lawfull authority, wherby he was to chooſe the Romiſh Biſhops, and not they to chooſe the Emperors, that his ſeate ought to bee in Rome, beeing Romane Emperor, and not to leaue it to the Vſurper, calling the ſame *Peters Patrimonie*. *Conſtantine* had no reaſon to giue it to that Prelate, who had leſſe warrant to receiue the ſame from him. Our Sauiour ſaid to *Peter*, *I will giue thee the Keyes of Heauen*: and it was the voyce of Sathan, *I will giue thee theſe kingdomes with their glory.*

Animaduertite Reges, eruditionem percipite
O Iudices terræ.

FINIS.